GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:605
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2003
IRREGULARITIES IN FOREST CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAV

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure for the formulation of Forest Conservation and Management Committees;

(b) the number of villages, State-wise, where the said Committees are operational;

(c) the number of Committees against whom cases have been filed for their alleged involvement in unlawful felling of trees and irregularities during last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the department to check the irregularities committed by the said Committees?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN THE REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 6(SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA REGARDING `IRREGULARITIES IN FOREST CONSERVATION AND MANAGI COMMITTEES` DUE FOR REPLY ON 05-05-2003.

(a) National Forest Policy, 1988, envisages people`s involvement in the development and protection of forests. Accordingly, Central Government had issued detailed guidelines on 1st June, 1990 to all the States and requested them to work out the modalities to involve Voluntary agencies/NGOs and the village communities with the State Forest Department for protection, development of degraded forest lands, afforestation and usufruct sharing by adopting Joint Forest Management. On the basis of these guidelines, various State Governments have formulated their own set of procedures for the constitution of Joint Forest Management Committees. Generally all the village adults are the members of the General Body of the Joint Forest Management Committee, while the Executive Body is an elected body.

(b) State-wise data regarding the number of Joint Forest Management Committees is given in Annexure.

(c) Central Government has not received any report from any State Government regarding unlawful felling of trees by the Joint Forest Management Committees. However, operational aspects of protection of forests are the responsibility of the State Governments which are dealt under various Forest Acts as applicable within the State.

(d) Does not arise.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN THE REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 605 BY GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA REGARDING `IRREGULARITIES IN FOREST CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT COMMI DUE FOR REPLY ON 05-05-2003.

S.No:	State	No. of JFM Committees	Area under JFM (in ha)	Total no of families involved in JFM
1	Andhra Pradesh	6726	1718940.00	659305
2	Arunachal Pr	226	19757.00	15004
3	Assam	245	6970.00	4674
4	Bihar	296	74139.50	0
5	Chattisgarh	6687	3200000.00	471522
6	Goa	26	13000.00	336
7	Gujarat	1417	159064.00	95044
8	Harayana	471	65852.42	9562
9#	Himachal Pr	914	186000.00	45230
10	Jammu & Kashmir	1895	79546.00	0
11##	Jharkhand	1652	631500.00	4091
12	Karnataka	2620	185000.00	69600

13 Kerala 232 131570.00 3622
14 Madhya Pradesh 13303 5200000.00 1612000
15 Maharashtra 4231 1220200.00 482563
16 Manipur 82 507292.00 0
17 Mizoram 256 26170.00 0
18 Nagaland 55 150000.00 550
19 Orissa 12317 783467.00 0
20 Punjab 567 164000.00 9366
21 Rajasthan 3446 324000.00 272498
22 Sikkim 158 600.00 3268
23 Tamil Nadu 1107 408718.00 391038
24 Tripura 194 35365.00 12443
25 Uttar Pradesh 945 91738.00 209442
26 Uttranchal 9098 796768.00 270000
27 West Bengal 3545 488095.00 0

Total 72711 16667751.92 4641158

Cover 1899 Revenue villages
Cover 2439 Revenue villages.